

REMARKS

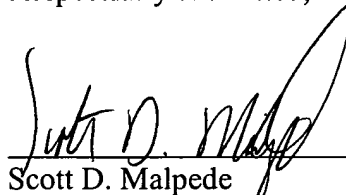
Claims 1-15 are presented for consideration, with Claims 1, 14 and 15 being independent.

Minor amendments have been made to the independent claims.

Due consideration and prompt passage to issue are respectfully requested.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Scott D. Malpede", is written over a horizontal line.

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